Numb. 128

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

——*Veniunt a Dote Sagittæ.* Juv.

From *Tueſday January* 31. to *Thurſday February* 2. 1709.

From my own Apartment, February 1.

THIS Morning I received a Letter from a Fortune Hunter, which being better in its Kind than Men of that Character uſually write, I have thought fit to communicate to the Publick.

To Iſaac Bickerſtaff *Eſq;*

SIR,

'I Take the Boldneſs to recommend to your Care the incloſ'd Letter, not knowing how to communicate it but by your Means to the agreeable Country Maid you mention with ſo much Honour in your Diſcourſe concerning the Lottery.

'I ſhould be aſhamed to give you this Trouble without offering at ſome ſmall Requital: I ſhall therefore direct a new Pair of Globes and a Teleſcope of the beſt Maker, to be left for you at Mr. *Morphew*'s, as a Teſtimony of the great Reſpect with which I am

Your moſt humble Servant, &c.

To Mopſa *in* Sheer-Lane.

Faireſt Unknown,

'IT being diſcovered by the Stars, that about Ten Months hence, you will run the Hazard of being perſecuted by many worthleſs Pretenders to your Perſon, unleſs timely prevented, I now offer my Service for your Security againſt the Perſecution that threatens you. This is therefore to let you know, That I have conceived a moſt extraordinary Paſſion for you; and that for ſeveral Days I have been perpetually haunted with the Viſion of a Perſon I have never yet ſeen. To ſatisfy you that I am in my Senſes, and that I do not miſtake you for any one of higher Rank, I aſſure you, that in your daily Employment, you appear to my Imagination more agreeable in a ſhort ſcanty Petticoat, than the fineſt Woman of Quality in her ſpreading Fardingal; and that the dextrous Twirl of your Mop has more native Charms, than the ſtudied Airs of a Lady's Fan. In a Word, I am captivated with your Menial Qualifications: The Domeſtick Virtues adorn you like Attendant *Cupids*; Cleanlineſs and healthful Induſtry wait on all your Motions; and Duſt and Cobwebs fly your Approach.

'Now, to give you an honeſt Account of my ſelf, and that you may ſee my Deſigns are honourable, I am an Eſquire of an ancient Family, born to about Fifteen Hundred Pounds a Year, half of which I have ſpent in diſcovering my ſelf to be a Fool, and with the reſt am reſolv'd to retire with ſome plain honeſt Partner, and ſtudy to be wiſer. I had my Education in a Lac'd Coat, and a *French* Dancing-School; and by my Travel into Foreign Parts, have juſt as much Breeding to ſpare, as you may think you want, which I intend to exchange as faſt as I can for Old *Engliſh* Honeſty and good Senſe. I will not impoſe on you by a falſe Recommendation of my Perſon, which (to ſhew you my Sincerity) is none of the handſomeſt, being of a Figure ſomewhat ſhort; but what I want in Length, I make out in Breadth. But in Amends for that and all other Defects, if you can like me when you ſee me, I ſhall continue to you, whether I find you Fair, Black or Brown,

27 Jan. 17$\frac{8}{9}$. *The moſt conſtant of Lovers.*

This Letter ſeems to be written by a Wag, and for that Reaſon I am not much concern'd for what Reception *Mopſa* ſhall think fit to give it; but the following certainly proceeds from a poor Heart, that languiſhes under the moſt deplorable Misfortune that poſſibly can befal a Woman. A Man that is treacherouſly dealt with in Love, may have Recourſe to many Conſolations. He may gracefully break through all Oppoſition to his Miſtreſs, or explain with his Rival; urge his own Conſtancy, or aggravate the Falſhood by which it is repay'd. But a Woman that is ill treated, has no Refuge in her Griefs but in Silence and Secrecy. The World is ſo unjuſt, that a Female Heart which has been once touched, is thought for ever blemiſhed. The very Grief in this Caſe is looked upon as a Reproach, and a Complaint almoſt a Breach of Chaſtity. For theſe Reaſons, we ſee Treachery and Falſhood are become as it were Male-Vices, and are ſeldom found, never acknowledged, in the other Sex. This may ſerve to introduce *Statira*'s Letter, which, without any Turn or Art, has ſomething ſo pathetical and moving in it, that I verily believe it to be true, and therefore heartily pity the injured Creature that writ it.

To Iſaac Bickerſtaff *Eſq;*

SIR,

'YOU ſeem in many of your Writings to be a Man of a very compaſſionate Temper, and well acquainted with the Paſſion of Love. This encourages me to apply my ſelf to you in my preſent Diſtreſs, which I believe you will look upon to be very great, and treat with Tenderneſs, notwithſtanding it wholly ariſes from Love, and that it is a Woman who makes this Confeſſion. I

'am

' am now in the Twenty third Year of my Age, ' and have for a great while entertained the ' Addreſſes of a Man who I thought lov'd me ' more than Life. I am ſure I did him; and ' muſt own to you, not without ſome Confuſion, ' that I have thought on nothing elſe for theſe ' Two long Years, but the happy Life we ſhould ' lead together, and the Means I ſhould uſe ' to make my ſelf ſtill dearer to him. My ' Fortune was indeed much beyond his; and ' as I was always in the Company of my Rela- ' tions, he was forced to diſcover his Inclinations, ' and declare himſelf to me by Stories of other Per- ' ſons, kind Looks, and many Ways which he ' knew too well that I underſtood. Oh! Mr. *Bicker- ' ſtaff*, it is impoſſible to tell you, how induſtrious ' I have been to make him appear lovely in my ' Thoughts. I made it a Point of Conſcience to ' think well of him, and of no Man elſe: But he ' has ſince had an Eſtate fallen to him, and makes ' Love to another of a greater Fortune than ' mine. I could not believe the Report of this ' at firſt; but about a Fortnight ago I was con- ' vinced of the Truth of it by his own Behaviour. ' He came to give our Family a formal Viſit, when, ' as there were ſeveral in Company, and many ' Things talked of, the Diſcourſe fell upon ſome ' unhappy Woman who was in my own Circum- ' ſtances. It was ſaid by one in the Room, That ' they could not believe the Story could be true, ' becauſe they did not believe any Man could be ' ſo falſe. Upon which I ſtole a Look upon him ' with an Anguiſh not to be expreſſed. He ſaw ' my Eyes full of Tears; yet had the Cruelty to ' ſay, That he could ſee no Falſhood in Alterations ' of this Nature, where there had been no Con- ' tracts or Vows interchanged. Pray, do not make ' a Jeſt of Miſery, but tell me ſeriouſly your Opi- ' nion of his Behaviour; and if you can have any ' Pity for my Condition, publiſh this in your next ' Paper, that being the only Way I have of com- ' plaining of his Unkindneſs, and ſhowing him ' the Injuſtice he has done me. I am

Your humble Servant,

The unfortunate Statira.

The Name my Correſpondent gives her ſelf, puts me in Mind of my old reading in Romances, and brings into my Thoughts a Speech of the renowned *Don Bellianis*, who, upon a Complaint made him of a diſcourteous Knight, that had left his injur'd Paramour in the ſame Manner, dries up her Tears with a Promiſe of Relief. ' Diſconſolate Damſel, (quoth ' he) a foul Diſgrace it were to all right worthy ' Profeſſors of Chivalry, if ſuch a Blot to Knight- ' hood ſhould paſs unchaſtis'd. Give me to know ' the Abode of this Recreant Lover, and I will give ' him as a Feaſt to the Fowls of the Air, or drag ' him bound before you at my Horſe's Tail.

I am not aſhamed to own my ſelf a Champion of diſtreſſed Damſels, and would venture as far to relieve them as *Don Bellianis*; for which Reaſon, I do invite this Lady to let me know the Name of the Traitor who has deceived her; and do promiſe, not only her, but all the Fair Ones of *Great Britain* who lie under the ſame Calamity, to employ my Right Hand for their Redreſs, and ſerve them to my laſt Drop of Ink.

Advertiſements.

* * Propoſals for Printing the Lucubrations of Iſaac Bickerſtaff Eſq; by Subſcriptions, in Two Volumes in Octavo, on a Large Character, and Fine Royal Paper, are to be ſeen, and Subſcriptions taken, at Charles Lillie's, a Perfumer, at the Corner of Beaufort-Buildings in the Strand, and John Morphew's near Stationers-Hall.

MEn's Morning-Gowns, of rich Silks, Stuffs, Calicoes, &c. (being the Goods of a Perſon that failed) to be diſpoſed of at very low Rates; may be ſeen at the Olive-Tree and Still within three Doors of Young Man's Coffee-Houſe, againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs. The Prices being ſet on each Gown. Catalogues of the Particulars may be had at the Place of Sale.

* * There is now in the Preſs, and will be publiſh'd and ready to be delivered to the Subſcribers by the Thirteenth Inſtant, Sir Orlando Bridgman's Conveyances, with large Additions, and a new Table. Subſcriptions will be taken in any Time before the publiſhing of the ſaid Book, by the Undertaker J. Walthoe in the Middle-Temple Cloyſters. For whom were lately Printed, The New Retorna Brevium, in 8vo. The Impartial Lawyer in 8vo. The Rules and Orders of the Common-Pleas in 8vo. and the Modern Conveyancer, or Conveyancing Improv'd. In 3 Vol. in 8vo.

Juſt publiſh'd,

* * A neat Edition on an Elziver Letter, fit for the Pocket, and proper to be given away as New-Years Gifts, Private Thoughts on Religion, digeſted into 12 Articles, with practical Reſolutions formed thereupon. By the Rt. Rev. Father in God W. Beveridge, D. D. late Lord Biſhop of St. Aſaph. Written in his younger Years for the ſettling of his Principles, and Conduct of his Life. The 4th Edition. Price 1 s. in Quires, 1 s. 2 d. bound in Sheep, and 1 s. 6 d. in Calf. Thoſe that take a Hundred, ſhall have Ten Gratis. Printed; and ſold by R. Smith at his Ware-houſe in Exeter-Change in the Strand, and W. Taylor at the Ship in Pater-noſter Row; where the whole Works may be had in Nine Volumes.

This Day is publiſhed,

* * Obedience to Governors; or, The Doctrine of St. Peter concerning Government; Preached on the 30th of January about Thirty Years ſince at St. Peter's Cornhil. By William Beveridge, D. D. late Lord Biſhop of St. Aſaph. Printed for R. Smith at his Warehouſe in Exeter-Change in the Strand, with Her Majeſty's Royal Privilege; and likewiſe ſold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Price 2 d.

In a Month will be publiſh'd,

* * The Compleat Hiſtory of Europe, from 1600 to this Time, in 14 Vol. viz. all the laſt Century in 5 Vol. containing all the publick and ſecret Tranſactions therein; the Characters of the Great Men, as done by my Lord Clarendon; as alſo of the ſame Perſons done by Sir Sir P. Warwick, Mr. Whitlock, Mr. Ruſhworth, &c. and of thoſe abroad written by Nani Puffendorf, &c. the Hiſtory of Europe for 1701, 1702, 1703, 1704, 1705, 1706, 1707, 1708, and 1709; in all 14 Vol. Printed for H. Rhodes by Fleet-Bridge, J. Nicholſon in Little-Britain, and A. Bell at the Croſs-Keys, Cornhil. Note, there are not above 100 compleat Sets of the above Vol. (and thoſe for 1702, 1703, and 1704, are reprinted to make ſo many.) So all Gentlemen, Bookſellers in the Country, &c. that intend to have compleat Sets, are deſired to order them by the Firſt of March next, when the Hiſtory of Europe for 1709 will be publiſhed, that they may come together.

* * A ſhort Method propoſed to prevent the Deſertion of Soldiers for the future, and to ſupply the Army with a large and ſpeedy *Recruit*, out of the great Numbers of Deſerters now in England. Humbly inſcrib'd to the General Officers commanding the Foot and Marines. Printed for B. Barker, and C. King, at the White-Hart, and Judges-Head, both in Weſtminſter-Hall.

* * Bibliothecæ Binæ Inſignes, viz. Baſiræanæ & Lanæanæ. Or, A Catalogue of the Libraries of the late Reverend Iſaac Baſire, D. D. and Tho. Lane, L. L. D. Which will begin to be ſold by Auction at the Black-boy Coffee-houſe in Ave-mary-lane near Ludgate, this preſent Thurſday, and every Evening at 5 a Clock, till the Sale is ended. By Tho. Ballard, Bookſeller, at the Riſing Sun in Little-Britain. Where Catalogues are now to be had; as alſo of Mr. King in Weſtminſter-hall, Mr. Stokoe againſt the Mews Gate, Mr. Vailliant over-againſt Bedford Buildings, Mr. Brown at Temple-bar, Mr. Ward in the Temple, Mr. Clements in St. Paul's Church-yard, Mr. Strahan in Cornhill, Bookſellers; and at the Place of Sale. Price 6 d.

This Day is publiſhed,

* * A Review of the Caſe of Liturgies, and their Impoſition. In Anſwer to Mr. Bennet's Brief Hiſtory of Precompos'd set Forms of Prayer; and his Diſcourſe of Joint-Prayer. By Benjamin Robinſon, Miniſter of the Goſpel. Printed for J. Clark at the Bible and Crown in the Old Change.

Muſick juſt publiſh'd,

* * A Second Edition of the Songs and Symphonies of the Opera called Clotilda: The Songs done in Italian and Engliſh, as they are performed at the Queen's Theatre. And next Week will be publiſhed, All the Songs ſet to Muſick in the laſt new Opera called Almahide. Done from the Score, and engraven in a fair Character. Printed for J. Walſh, Servant in Ordinary to Her Majeſty, and P. Randall, at the Harp and Hautboy in Katherine-ſtreet near Somerſet-Houſe in the Strand, and J. Hare at the Viol and Flute in Cornhil near the Royal Exchange.

AT the farther End of Chelſea, near the Water-ſide, is a Houſe and good Gardens, with other Conveniencies, to be ſold.

☞ The Painful or Running Piles, either Outward or Inward, which do often end in Fiſtula's when neglected, are cured in 3 Days Time, by a pleaſant Specifick Electuary, at 3 s. the Gally-pot, which is ſufficient for one Cure. Sold only by Mrs. Smith, who lodges at the Sign of the Sun without Ludgate, at the Corner of Bell-Savage-Inn, a Mercer's Shop.